

(TMI Newsletter – October 2014)

WELCOMING EXTENDED FAMILY

An Interview with Tammy Matheny

Registration Coordinator of Programs

October 2014

Q: Tammy, how long have you worked at The Monroe Institute?

A: Sixteen years ago I was hired as a member of the kitchen staff. From there I worked my way up to become the kitchen supervisor. A little over nine years ago I moved over to work in the offices. I started out answering phones. Then I ran the bookstore. I went from bookstore to programs.

Q: What is your official title now?

A: Registration Coordinator of Programs

Q: So, if someone is thinking about taking a program, what do they do?

A: Call me up on the phone, go to [our website](#), or send me an email.

Q: How would I know the difference between ***Starlines***, ***Conscious Presence***, ***Gateway Voyage*** and ***Guidelines***?

A: The best way would be to go to our website and read the descriptions, or call me. I certainly can talk to anyone over the phone, answer any questions, and explain the differences among the programs.

Q: When people are thinking about taking a program and call you, what kind of questions do they ask?

A: Most often, by the time they call me, they want to know one of a few things—if there is room in a particular program, whether they qualify for any discounts, if they can room with a friend or reserve a certain room. We have very few private rooms. TMI feels



people tend to get more out of the programs by sharing a room with a fellow participant. I do answer lots of basic questions, but usually they are logistical questions. I get a few calls saying, "my friend just told me about you, what do you do," but I don't get too many of those.

Q: What is the availability situation?

A: The farther in advance someone signs up the more likely they are to get into the program they want, when they want. Some of our classes in December were already sold out in August. Some people call in at the last minute and occasionally we may still have openings, but we encourage people to plan and call ahead so they are not disappointed.

Q: We are now offering weekend retreat programs: *Positively Ageless*, *Opening to Stillness*, *Dowsing—A Self-Empowerment Seminar*, and *Medical Intuition and Symbolic Diseases*.

A: Yes, some people want to come to weekend programs, so we are working to meet their requests as well. We hope to be offering some online programs by the beginning of next year and we now also offer a free Mini One-Day Program to give people a feel of what the full programs offer.

Q: The *OBE intensive* sells out immediately.

A: Yes, as soon as we announce them. It seems to be how people think of The Monroe Institute, because of Robert Monroe's books. People often experience out-of-body in other programs, but the OBE class focuses on that. Everyone wants to learn how to go out of body. In 2015 we are offering a ***Lucid Dreaming*** program and a Near Death Experience program as well.

Q: We offer quite a few *Gateway Voyage* programs during the year, conducted by different trainers.

A: But the program is the same. At least once every month we have a Gateway program, some months, two. The trainers bring their own personalities, skills, and styles, but follow the same process and timelines in all Gateway Voyage programs.

Q: *Gateway Voyage* is our signature program. It gives people the foundational learning pieces that other programs tend to build upon and expand. It is not offered in other States at this point in time but is presently being offered in a number of other countries, is that correct?

A: Yes, the Gateway Voyage is our main doorway into the possibilities of TMI. It is presently offered, within the US, mainly here in Virginia, but we occasionally offer it other States. But it is offered in other countries. People in the US wanting to take a weekend TMI program may attend ***Excursion*** workshops in other States.

Q: In what other countries are programs offered?

In terms of our six-day programs, we offer Exploration 27, Gateway Voyage, Guidelines, Starlines I and II, and Lifeline internationally. Not every country offers all programs, but at least one is offered in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, England, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Romania, and Spain.

Outreach Trainers offer the two-day Excursion workshops in Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Mexico, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. We are adding new countries very quickly. A list of currently scheduled Excursion workshops can be seen on our website.

Q: If people want to sign up for TMI programs in any of those countries, how can they do that?

A: They would contact the trainer offering those programs in those countries. They can find their contact information on our website or call or email me and I will give it to them.

Q: When I walk by your office, I can hear you are great dealing with people. You seem to enjoy those who call in and enjoy answering their questions.

A: I love what we offer here at TMI and the people who call in are tremendous and fun to deal with. Much of the information is provided in the packets we mail to those who register for programs. But if something is not clear, we are happy to answer any and all questions. We want people to be comfortable and feel welcomed and part of the extended family.

Q: With each course there are basic questions you answer?

A: Sure. Such as what time should I arrive? Can I get transportation to and from the airport? Do you accommodate vegetarians or gluten-free people? We gladly make those arrangements if they are requested ahead of time.

Q: Are there questions that people who read the newsletter might want to know about what you do?

A: If they have been to one program or weekend retreat, they usually know me and know I am more than glad to help them in whatever way I can. They know to call me and sign up for the program and that most of the programs are filling up earlier these days and they should inform me of their travel details, so that I can arrange our shuttle to pick them up and return them. Basically, what everyone reading the newsletter should know is that if you are making arrangements to attend a program, and have questions or are working, simply email or talk to me and I will assist you. My responsibility is to make sure everyone is signed, confirmed. We pick them up at their hotel or the Charlottesville airport. On arrival we help them get settled in and all ready to have a great experience while here.